



Health hazards in areas of military operations conducted in different climatic and sanitary conditions

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Abstract:

This paper reviews the most common health hazards occurring among personnel of peacekeeping and stabilization missions functioning within armed conflicts in the contemporary world. Military operations have been executed in diverse climatic and sanitary conditions, which are frequently unfamiliar for their participants. Some of them, e.g. the UN peacekeeping missions in the Middle East (Lebanon, the Golan Heights), have been carried out in a relatively stable geopolitical environment; whereas, stabilization missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, which are actually combat activities, undoubtedly fall into the group of the most perilous military operations in the world. Hot or cold climate, poor sanitary and hygienic conditions along with warfare facilitate the occurrence of numerous diseases and body injuries not only among the local people but also among peacekeepers, who represent the population of immigrants. Health hazards which pose major epidemiological threats in combat zones are arthropod-borne, food and water-borne, respiratory tract diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, enzootic diseases, battle injuries, and non- -battle injuries, e.g. traffic accidents. Another considerable health problem are psychiatric disorders, which can either appear directly after the occurrence of a traumatic event in a combat zone or indirectly, after some time had elapsed. In addition to the health hazards listed above, environmental factors such as changeable weather conditions and local fauna may also be life threatening.

Source: <http://czasopisma.viamedica.pl/imh/article/view/26198>

Resource Description

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Food/Water Quality, Human Conflict/Displacement, Temperature

Air Pollution: Dust, Particulate Matter

Food/Water Quality: Pathogen

Temperature: Extreme Cold, Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Desert, Mountain, Tropical

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Country

Other Asian Country: Middle East

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Dermatological Effect, Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Other Health Impact

Infectious Disease: Airborne Disease, Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Airborne Disease: Tuberculosis

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: Fly-borne Disease, Mosquito-borne Disease

Fly-borne Disease: Leishmaniasis

Mosquito-borne Disease: Malaria

Zoonotic Disease: Brucellosis, Rabies, Other Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease (other): Q fever

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Stress Disorder

Other Health Impact: Sexually transmitted diseases

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified